GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6467
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2003
INDIA`S DESTINATION FOR PHARMA AND BIO INFORMATIC COMPANIES
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the Associated Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHEM) have urged upon the Government to provide complete database solutions to major pharma and biotech companies which are not able to take a jump mainly due to lack a capital and low R&D spending;

(b) whether the country has knowledge, resources skilled personnel and a sound technology base to offer tremendous potential for clinical trials;

(c) whether the ASSOCHEM have suggested that India could become the preferred destination for pharma and bio informatic companies; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government to the suggestion made by the ASSOCHEM?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): No Sir.

(b): Yes Sir. India has sufficient resources, skilled manpower and sound technological base offering potential for clinical trials. Some hospitals both public & private, are engaged in clinical trials. Indian Council of Medical Research has recentlyset up a network of institutions & hospitals to conduct human clinical trials.

(c) and (d): ASSOCHAM has not requested Department of Information Technology(DIT)/Departmentof Bio-Technology(DBT)for any data base solutions on pharma biotech. However, during a Conference by ASSOCHAM, titled `Knowledge Milleneum 3` during March 2003, certain remarks were made for contract research services in Bio informatics with a view to reduce cost across the business system in biotechnology. The Government is aware about the potential of the contract research. Keeping in view the strength of the country in terms of manpower in biotechnology and information technology, the country is poised to provide such services to companies in pharma biotech.